THE MIN STER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Both China and India have agreed to make continued efforts to foster and expand their growing economic cooperation, especially for setting up joint ventures, in either country. Three Indian joint ventures are already being set up in China, in the fields of pharmaceuticals, refractories, and automotive two-wheelers. Other likely areas for Indian investment in China are,inteeralia, chemicalsa, auto components textiles, and dairy developments.

चाय का उत्पादन

740. **श्री अजीत जोगी : क्या वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1993–94 के दौरान चाय का कुल कितना उत्पादन हुआ ;

(ख) इस समय चाय बागानों में कुल कितने श्रमिक कार्यरत हैं ;

(ग) क्या 1969–70 की तुलना में 1993-94 के दौरान चाय के उत्पादन में तीन गुना वृद्धि हुई है ; और इसके अनुपात में श्रमिकों की संख्या मे कमी आयी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और श्रमिकों की संख्या में कमी आने के क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) (क) वर्ष 1993–94 के दौरान चाय का कुल उत्पादन (अनुमानित 753.54 मिलियन किग्राम था।

(ख) अद्यतन उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार 1992 के दौरान भारत में चाय पौध रोपड़ में अनुमानित नियुक्त श्रमिकों की औसत दैनिक संख्या 9,75,420 थी।

(ग) जी, नहीं। चाय का उत्पादन वर्ष 1969–70 के दौरान 401.18 मिलियन क्रिग्रा० के स्तर से बढ़कर वर्ष 1993–94 में 753.54 मिलियन क्रिग्राम (अनुमानित) हो गया है। चाय बागानों में नियुक्त दैनिक श्रमिकों की संख्या भी बढ़ गई हैं। 1969 में यह संख्या 7,47,835 थी जो बढ़कर वर्ष 1992 के दौरान 9,75,420 हो जाने का अनुमान है। तथापि उत्पादन में यह बढ़ोतरी उच्च उत्पादकता के जरिए संभव हुई है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Newsitem regarding dubious exporters

741. PROF. O. P. KOHLI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Dubious exporters rob Government of over Rs. 1800 crores' which apeared in the 'Indian Express' dated 19th January 1994.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Investigation by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade have not revealed large scale misuse of the value Based Advance Licensing Scheme. As regards the specific case cited in the news item, the matter is under consideration of the Central Excise Gold Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT).

Countries with Positive and Negative Subsidies on Agriculture

742. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) which countries of the World have got positive subsidy an agriculture ;

(b) which countries have got negative subsidies on agriculture;

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(c) what are the after effects o signing the GATT agreement a nd of world Trade Organisations coming into picture ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture does not use the concepts of positive and negative subsidies. The concept that has been used to measure support in favour of agricultural producers is the Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS). AMS comprises two elements, namely, product specific AMS and non-product specific AMS. For the purpose of calculating the domestic support to agricultural producers, both product specifix AMS and non-product specific AMS shall be taken into account.

AMS is a negotiated concept designed to measure the trade distorting domestic support given to agriculture by member countries of GATT. It does not take into account a large variety of support measures for the agricultural sector. For this reason, it is not appropriate to equate the concepts of AMS and subsidies.

Some 20 developing and developed countries including the US, European Communities, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Thailand, Korea, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland have undertaken AMS reduction commitments in their schedules filed in GATT. About 50 countries have not undertaken any reduction commitments and these included India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Cuba, Peru and Kenya.

The Uruguay Round Agreement has not yet come into force. It is expected that the Agreement will come into force with effect from 1st January 1995.

Plants for tobacco products in Andhra Pradesh

743. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign businessmen in the Tobacco Sector are setting up plants in Andhra Pradesh to make tobacco products suitable for 100 per cent export;

(b) if so, whether the availability of raw material in Andhra Pradesh has been studied by Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the involvement of the Central Tobacco Research Institute in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

India International Trade Fair—94

744. SHRI K. M. KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 14th India International Trade Fair opened on the 14th November, 1994 ;

(b) if so, the special features of this fair with names of Indian as well as foreign organisations which took part ;

(c) whether some norms for participation in the fair have been fixed for Indian as well as foreign organisations ;

(d) if so, details thereof with charges fixed for such participation;

(e) whether some earning has been made by organising this fair ;